

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action

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During call this afternoon to present DCM to Foreign Minister and Subsecretary Aja Espil, latter said there was one point which caused him some puzzlement as to future relationships of COAS combined command. Argentine naval and air units are still operating pursuant to a resolution of COAS. Question was that now that President Kennedy had lifted Cuban quarantine blockade should there not also be some resolution passed by COAS which would parallel out thus far unilateral action?

Comment: This may be logic chopping but there is a legal point as to under what present authority Argentine or other Latin American military units are operating; and question of whether US can unilaterally suspend effect of COAS resolution. Underlying legal concern is sensitivity as to Argentine ships being subordinate to a foreign command. A simple way out might be for COAS to adopt a resolution paralleling our action in lifting quarantine, and for Argentine ships henceforth to operate voluntarily in joint training exercises.

Grateful for information as to what we should tell Foreign Minister on this problem.

MCCLINTOCK

HC

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